GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1419
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2007
FILING OF PATENTS IN INDIA
Chakrabortty Shri Swadesh

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of patents filed in India per million population in 2004-05 as compared with the world average;

(b) the number of patents in force in India during 2004 in comparison to China and world average;

(c) whether the Government is aware that India accounts for only one out of 800 patents in the world; and

(d) if so, the efforts being made by the Government to strengthen the processes and help creation of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a): The total number of patents filed in India per million population was 16.40 in 2004-05 as compared to the world average of 250.72 worked out on the basis of the world population (6377.6 million) as per data given in the State of World Population 2004: United Nations Population Fund Report and the number of patents filed worldwide during 2004 (15,99,000) as per data given in World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) Patent Report: Statistics on Worldwide Patent Activity, 2006 Edition.

(b): The number of patents in force in India in 2004 was 6,406, while it was 1,82,385 in China. The world average of patents in force in 2004 was 846.71 per million worked out on the basis of the world population (6377.6 million) as per data given in the State of World Population 2004: United Nations Population Fund Report and the number of patents in force worldwide during 2004 (5.4 million) as per data given in World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) Patent Report: Statistics on Worldwide Patent Activity, 2006 Edition.

(c): There were a total of about 5.6 million patents in force worldwide in 2005 as per World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) Patent Report: Statistics on Worldwide Patent Activity, 2007 Edition. However, this number includes patents obtained in different countries for the same invention also. Therefore, it will not be feasible to draw a conclusion on the proportion of patents in force in India vis-Ã -vis those in force worldwide. However, the number of Patents in India in force was 6857 in 2005.

(d): The efforts made by the Government to strengthen the processes and help creation of Intellectual Property Rights are as under:

(i) A scheme of Modernisation of Intellectual Property offices at a cost of Rs.153.00 crore was implemented during the 9th and 10th Five Year Plans for Infrastructure development; computerisation; human resource development and training and awareness.

(ii) Four new integrated Intellectual Property Offices were set up in Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai and Mumbai.

(iii) Foundation stone for a National Institute of Intellectual Property Management has been laid at Nagpur on 18th August, 2007.

(iv) E-filing of Patent applications has been made operational with effect from 20th July, 2007.

(v) Seminars/Conferences/Workshops at national and international level have been organized for creating awareness and promotion of Intellectual Property Rights.

(vi) Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) have been signed between India and France, United States of America, United Kingdom, European Patent Office, Japan, Switzerland and Germany for cooperation in the field of Intellectual Property Rights.